



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Preview Screening of Documentary About “New Americans” to be Shown at Central Library on March 15**

**SAN DIEGO** – The City of San Diego Public Library and KPBS will present “The New Americans,” a documentary that follows newcomers from five areas of the world from their countries of origin through their dramatic first years in the United States, putting a human face on the phenomenon of globalization. The free presentation will take place Monday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego.

America has seen many waves of immigration since the country’s founding; some came to escape political or religious persecution, others to seek their riches in a new land, some came as privileged merchants and countless others with little more than the clothes on their backs. Their stories are as diverse and varied as the countries which they left behind. Yet despite the fact that most Americans have personal or family stories of immigration to the United States, the country is currently experiencing a wave of anti-immigrant sentiment – feelings that have ebbed and flowed throughout our nation’s history.

“The New Americans” series premieres on PBS stations beginning Monday, March 29 at 9 p.m., and was executive produced by Steve James (director of “Hoop Dreams” and the recent critical hit “Stevie”) and long-time award-winning filmmaker Gordon Quinn, with Gita Saedi serving as series producer. “The New Americans” is produced by Kartemquin Films in association with the Independent Television Service (ITVS) with funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Additional major funding was provided by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and PBS. “The New Americans” is a presentation of ITVS in association with Latino Public Broadcasting and Asian Women United/National Asian American Telecommunications Association.

“New Americans” offers a sneak peak at the type of programs that will be part of the San Diego Public Library’s “Stories of Faith” series that will take place in the fall of 2004. The series, funded by California Council for the Humanities’ Communities Speak project will enable participants and the general public to learn more about each other’s beliefs and values.

For more information about the “Stories of Faith,” visit the Library’s web site at [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library) and click on “News & Events” or call 619-236-5800.

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